Degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers, reclamation of alkali sols, Watershed Development Project in shifting Cultivation Areas (WDSCA), National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilisers, Promotion of Integrated Pest Management, National Project on organic farming, promotion of zero tillage and drip and sprinkler irrigation, contribute to addressing the potential adverse impact of climate change.

Extinction of birds of rare species in NE

1084. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North-Eastern States were ones the habitats of many exotic and majestic animals and beautiful birds, which are facing extinction;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into this problem; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Large number of species that are listed in Schedule I of Wild Life(Protection) Act, 1972 are found in North Eastern States. Due to biotic pressure and loss of habitat there have been reports about decline in number of many of these species.

(c) The steps taken to improve the situation are—

- Funds have been earmarked for the North Eastern States under the scheme "Development of national parks and sanctuaries".
- Minister of Environment and forests had taken a meeting at Gahati regarding conservation of forests and wildlife in North Eastern States.

Funds to States for conservation of forests

†1085. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated by Government to States for conservation of environment and afforestation during the Ninth five Year Plans State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.